(*g*) do they propose to do anything to make that road tractable by at least bullock carts;

(*h*) does not food production drive, the prime duty of the Government, encompass the construction of more roads and the putting of the existing ones in good repair?

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*:

(*a*) Regular inspection of porambokes (including lanes is being conducted by the Revenue subordinates and appropriate action taken to remove the encroachments detected.

(*b*) The number cannot be given as the period is not specified.

(*c*) No case of encroachment noticed was left without action.

(*d*) Urgent improvements on this road are being attended to along with the road maintenance works this year.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) Yes.

(*g*) The allotments for original and repair works under communication in Panchayats are given as lump sums to each panchayat and each panchayat is allowed to distribute the allotment for various works according to its discretion. No special allotment is reserved in the budget for taking up other works under this item. In this case the Eruthempatti Panchayat has therefore to attend to the work in question with the allotment given to it.

(*h*) It is a matter of opinion.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: Did not the Government find that it was very difficult to carry paddy from farms where there are no roads. Here it is a matter of opinion. The Director of Food Supplies has said that he found it very difficult to transport paddy.

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu *(Diwan Peishkar)*: If anything has to be carried by road of course the road must be in good condition.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural)*: It is not a matter of opinion, any way.

PUNISHMENT OF EMPLOYEES—FOOD SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

254. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Will Government be pleased to state,—

(*a*) have any of the employees in the Food Supply Department been punished for any offence while employed in the Department;

(*b*) for what were they punished;

(*c*) what is the nature of punishment in each case?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*:

Yes. A list containing the information is placed on the Council table.

ISSUE OF QUOTAS FOR JAGGERY, POTATOES, ETC.—INFORMATION OF

255. Mr. P. P. Devassy *(Trichur-South)*: Will Government be pleased to state,—

(*a*) who are the persons to whom quota for jaggery, potatoes, chillies and onions has been given in 1119 in Trichur, Chittur and Tattamangalam;

(*b*) what are the considerations that weighed with the Government in choosing those persons from among the numerous applicants;

(*c*) whether among the persons so chosen, are people who have not before the war and in the near past done any large scale business in jaggery, potatoes, chillies, etc.

(*d*) if so, what persuaded the Government to give quota to such persons;

(*e*) among those to whom quota was refused are there not merchants of longstanding who have been dealing for a long time in the articles in question;

(*f*) will Government be pleased to give a list of the merchants to whom quota was refused in 1119;

(*g*) whether any uniform principle will be accepted in the distribution of quota of those and other articles;

(*h*) will Government be pleased to state whether there are not aided school teachers among those to whom quota for jaggery, onions, potatoes and chillies is given in Chittur and Tattamangalam?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies)*: (*a*) Vide list appended. *(Appendix III)*

(*b*) Character, command of necessary resources to purchase and import the articles in time, business experience, willingness to co-operate with the Government for conserving the commodities within the State and selling them here at at reasonable rates.

(*c*) Yes, a few.

(*d*) Vide answer to (*b*).

(*e*) Yes.

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(*f*) This is too voluminous and much time and labour will be required in preparing it.

(*g*) This is being done.

(*h*) Mr. T. V. S. Kurukkal, Chittur, is an aided school teacher. But he belongs to a family which has been hereditarily engaged in business and he himself is known to have been a business man for a number of years.

Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur-South):* With reference to sub-division (*h*) is the Government aware that this man has got a permanent place of business?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes.

Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur-South):* Is that business run in his own name?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Both in the name of his family.

Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur-South):* Is it written in his own name? May I take it that he is running the business in the family name?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food-Supplies):* We do not know exactly as to who are the members of the family.

Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur-South):* May I know, what exactly is meant by saying "he himself is known to have been a business man for a number of years."

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* He himself has been remaining in the shop and conducting the business.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Did the Government know that this gentleman was a school teacher when the permit was granted.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I subsequently came to know of it.

Mr. P. P. Devassi *(Trichur South):* May I know whether this Kurukkal is selling the quota for profit in other places of the State?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food-Supplies):* Government have no information

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know whether the selling prices of these articles have been fixed by the Government?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Yes. When these quotas are given, in consulation with local officers the price is fixed at which they are to sell them.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* What exactly is the relation between the selling price and the price at the places from which these articles are bought.

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* The incidental charges and a fair margin of profit is allowed.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* What percentage will it come to if you calculate incidental charges and the margin of profit?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* About 5 to 10 per cent. It varies with each case but it will not exceed 20 per cent.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Which is the article for which 5 per cent profit is allowed?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* I want notice.

മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. എസ്സ്. പണിക്കർ: ഈ സാധനങ്ങളുടെ വില ഇതിനുമുമ്പ് ഗവൺമെന്റു നിയന്ത്രിച്ചുകൊണ്ടാണോ കൊടുത്തിരുന്നത്?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Before they sell it the price is fixed and quota is given on condition that they will sell at the price fixed.

M. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Is it not a fact that a uniform rate of 10 per cent has been allowed over the purchase price?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):* Not in all cases.

SALE OF FOOD STUFFS—MONEY REALISATION OF

256. **Mr. A. B. Salem** *(Mattancheri):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the total amount of money realised by the sale of foodstuffs of all kinds in the year 1118;

(*b*) the total amount of money spent for the Civil Supplies department and its agents in and out of the State in the year 1118;

(*c*) the total number of hands employed in the Civil Supplies Department in the year 1118 and the number of hands employed in the Department as on 1st June 1944;

(*d*) the total amount of money spent for renting premises for storing foodstuffs by the Department in the year 1118?

Rao Sahib M. M. Paul *(Director of Food Supplies):*

(*a*) Rs. 1,39,42,517—0—8

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STATEMENT No. II

Showing the consumption of wheat, sugar, etc., in the Cochin Restaurants in Ernakulam and Mattancheri (In lbs.)

Name of restaurants	Wheat	Sugar	Bajra	Maize & maize products	Gram dhall	Rava	Atta
ERNAKULAM							
Huzur Jetty and Mampilly buildings* ..	1,519	8,761	3,509	..	1,183	5,675	359
Thevara ..	910	1,610	..	960	700	1,530	129
Pachalam ..	280	1,475	..	240	200	682	90
Valanjambalam ..	..	1,250	..	120	..	150	311
MATTANCHERI							
Canal Jetty ..	4,296	7,168	2,808	..	5,175	5,880	4,000
New Road ..	905	896	216	..	414	392	492
Palluruthi ..	(Started only very recently)						

* In addition he is issuing all wheat he gets as per the ration cards issued to his employees.

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